



## DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As below named inventors we hereby declare that: Our residence, post office address and citizenship is as stated below next to our names.

We believe we are the original, first, and joint inventors of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention, entitled:

OPTICAL TUBE ASSEMBLY HAVING A DRY INSERT AND METHODS OF MAKING THE SAME

of which:

### Check One

☐

is attached hereto.

☒

was filed on September 12, 2003, under SN 10/661,204

We hereby state that we have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims as amended by any amendment referred to above.

We acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with *Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations*, Section 1.56(a).

We hereby claim foreign priority benefits under *Title 35, United States Code*, 119(a)-(d) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Applications: None

N/A	N/A	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Number	Country	Day/Month/Year Filed	Priority Claimed
N/A	N/A	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Number	Country	Day/Month/Year Filed	Priority Claimed

We hereby claim the benefit under *Title 35, United States Code*, Section 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of *Title 35, United States Code*, Section 112, we acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined by *Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations*, Section 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

<u>10/326,022</u>	<u>December 19, 2002</u>	<u>Pending</u>
<i>Application Serial No.</i>	<i>Filing Date</i>	<i>Status: Patented/Pending/Abandoned</i>

We hereby declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of *Title 18 of the United States Code* and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

### **POWER OF ATTORNEY**

As named inventors, we hereby appoint Timothy J. Aberle (Registration Number 36,383), Michael E. Carroll, Jr. (Registration Number 46,602), and Christopher C. Dremann (Registration Number 36,504) our attorneys with full powers (including the powers of appointment, substitution, and revocation) to prosecute this application and any division, continuation, continuation-in-part, reexamination, or reissue thereof, and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith; the mailing address and the telephone number of the correspondence attorney is:

**Michael E. Carroll, Jr.**  
**P. O. Box 489**  
**Hickory, N. C., 28603-0489**  
**(828) 901-6725**

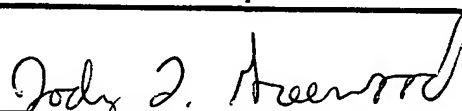
### **Signatures, Full Names, Addresses, and Citizenship of Inventors:**



**Jason C. Lail**  
415 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, NW  
Conover, NC 28613

**Citizenship: USA**

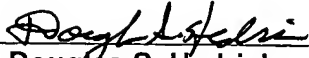
**Date: 10/3/2003**



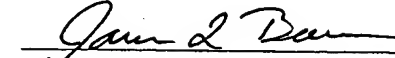
**Jody L. Greenwood**  
6167 Dwayne Starnes Road  
Hickory, NC 28602

**Citizenship: USA**

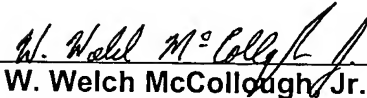
**Date: 10/7/2003**



Douglas S. Hedrick  
2776 Ethel Street  
Connelly Springs, NC 28612  
Citizenship: USA  
Date: 10-9-03



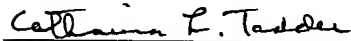
James L. Baucom  
1100 Oak Creek Drive  
Conover, NC 28613  
Citizenship: USA  
Date: 10/9/2003



W. Welch McCollough, Jr.  
2255 Willow Creek Drive  
Newton, NC 28658  
Citizenship: USA  
Date: 10-03-03



Kenneth D. Temple, Jr.  
3000 Sandy Ford  
Newton, NC 28658  
Citizenship: USA  
Date: 10-15-2003



Catharina L. Tedder  
4939 Pleasant View Lane  
Catawba, NC 28609  
Citizenship: USA  
Date: 10-03-03